action is needed to conserve and maintain genes, species and ecosystems.

(c) and (d) A scheme has already been launched during 1992-93 to associate scheduled tribes and rural poor in regeneration of degraded forests with the aim of improving bio-mass resource base in such areas. This will provide gainful employment and the resource so generated will serve as an economic base for the scheduled tribes and other rural poor by sharing of usufructs. Another scheme called Eco-development around National Parks and Sanctuaries has also been taken up to provide alternative sources for meeting the forest based needs of the people living in the fringes of protected areas and providing them improved avenues of gainful employment and better living.

Environmental Clearance to Tatas Aqua-Culture Project in Chilka Lagoon

1035. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre has rejected the Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCO) report giving environmental clearance to Tatas aqua-culture project in Chilka lagoon; and

(b) if so, what were the over-riding technical considerations that prompted the Centre to reject the WAPCO report and whether there were extraneous angles other than technical in rejection of the WAPCO report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) Based on an examination of the report for the Chilka Aquatic Farms prepared by the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Ltd., (WAPCOS), the State Government of Orissa has been advised that a multi-disciplinary group should be involved to carry out a proper environmental impact assessment study, as per terms of reference suggested for this purpose. It has also been pointed out that Chilka Lake is getting choked by siltation, which will get aggravated by construction of barriers of various kinds within the lake area and in the Bhubania nallah that drains into the lake and becomes a part of the lake during the rainy season and some months thereafter each year. Permission for allowing construction of permanent bunds for the farm ponds will only legitimise the intrusion and consequent process of degradation.

Environmental Clearance to Natural Gas based Power Plant in Andhra Pradesh

1036. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether environmental clearance was given to the 220 MW natural gas based power plant at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) and (b) A 200 MW gas based power plant at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh has been recently accorded environmental clearance subject to certain conditions. These include compliance of prescribed standards, installation of suitable pollution control devices, setting up

of monitoring stations, green belt development, control on indiscriminate growth of industries towards the Coringa Sanctuary and effective arrangements for ensuring protection of marine life in the sanctuary.

(c) Does not arise.

Cutting of Trees in Park of Kaka Nagar, New Delhi

1037. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that parks cannot be denotified for constructing buildings:

(b) whether Government are aware that a Barat Ghar is being constructed in a park of Kaka Nagar, New Delhi against the will of the affected residents; and

(c) if so, what action would be taken against those who have cut trees and destroyed environment of the said parks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) Details of the case are being ascertained from Delhi Administration and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Illegal mining and tree felling in Dehradoon

1038. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the Indian Express of the 13th April, 1993 under the heading "Rape of the Valley".

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard and since when the activities regarding the illegal mining and felling of trees in Doon Valley are going on ;

(c) who are responsible for it; and

(d) what steps Government have so far taken to check and control such illegal activities of certain persons in connivance with the officials and to save the beauty of the valley ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The issues raised are fully within the purview of the State Government. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has been advised to ensure that no such illegal activities are permitted in the area for maintaining ecological balance of the valley.

Assessment regarding environment hazards

1039. SHRI BASANT KUMAR DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment was made regarding environmental hazard created due to 'Bauxite' mining in Koraput and Kalahandi in Orissa State;

(b) if so, what is the report; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to make any assessment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) National Aluminium Company have submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment report on the proposed expansion of the existing Bauxite mine in Koraput